Fire at Delhi airports

3953. SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether breaking out of fires at Delhi airports has become a common phenomenon;

(b) if so, the number of times such a fire broke out on the terminal buildings of the airport during the last one year;

(c) the details of the losses suffered, flights delayed and persons killed/ injured;

(d) the persons who are responsible for such negligence and create dangers and the action being taken/taken by Government during the last one year; and

(e) the safety arrangements provided to avoid such fire accidents in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) There have been four minor incidents of fire during last one year at Delhi airport.

(c) The loss due to above fire incidents was Rs. 31 lacs approximately and 17 flights were somewhat delayed. However, no person was killed or injured. The cause of these incidents of fire was electrical-spark/short-circuit.

(d) The above fire were mere incidental.

(e) The following steps are taken from time to time to ensure that such incidents do not recur:—

(i) Monthly inspection of various types of fire extinquishers placed in all terminals and offices.

(ii) Quarterly inspection of fixed fire installation and fire alarm detection system.

(iii) Fire dampers in A/C ducts are checked once in every quarter.

(iv) Random inspection to check the use of unauthorised appliances and other fire hazards, if any, in the offices of the airlines/agencies.

(v) Fire officials keep monitoring the welding work.

(vi) Familiarization of the terminal building of all fire staff is done periodically to enable them to have easy access to the various terminal building areas and to reach the sources of the fire promptly.

Air services to major cities

†3954. SHRI JAI PARKASH AGGARWAL: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether all the major cities of the country have been connected with air services;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) the names of political organizations and people's representatives which have requested for the construction of airports in the country during the last three years and till date; and

(e) what steps have been taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) to (c) At present, scheduled air services are available to/from 72 destinations. Details of these stations are annexed as per enclosed statement. (See below)

(d) and (e) Proposals are received from various political organisations, people's representatives, State Governments etc. from time to time for construction of airports at different places in the country. However, specific requests have been received from the State Governments of Andhra Pradesh, Goa, Sikkim, Nagaland, Maharashtra, Punjab, Gujarat, Rajasthan, Karnataka, Kerala and Arunachal Pradesh for development of greenfield airports at various cities and towns in their respective states. Construction of greenfield international level airport at Shamshabad

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.